STAR comics
NOW COMES-- D'COMPOSE!
INHUMANOIDS
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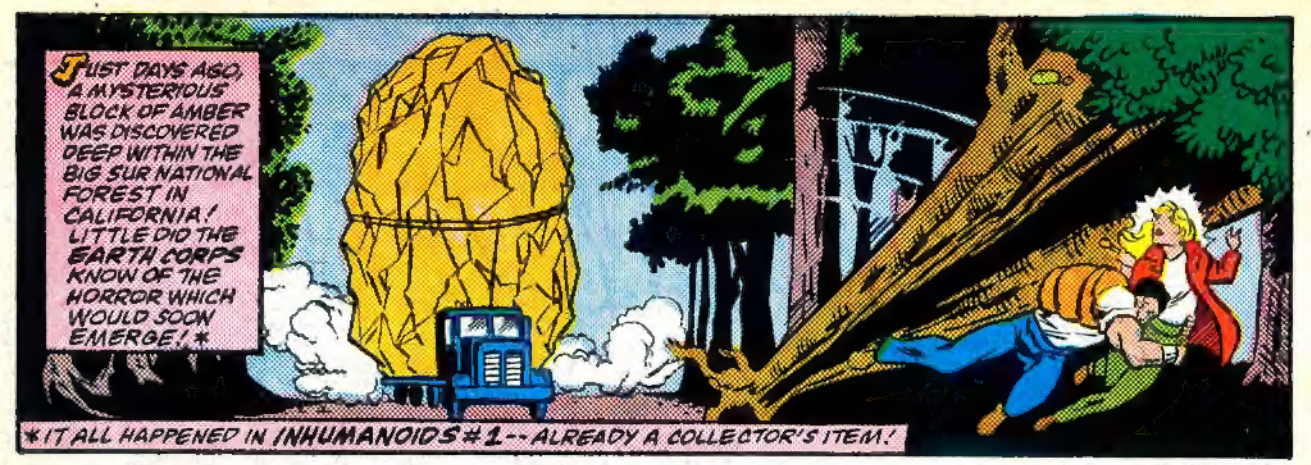

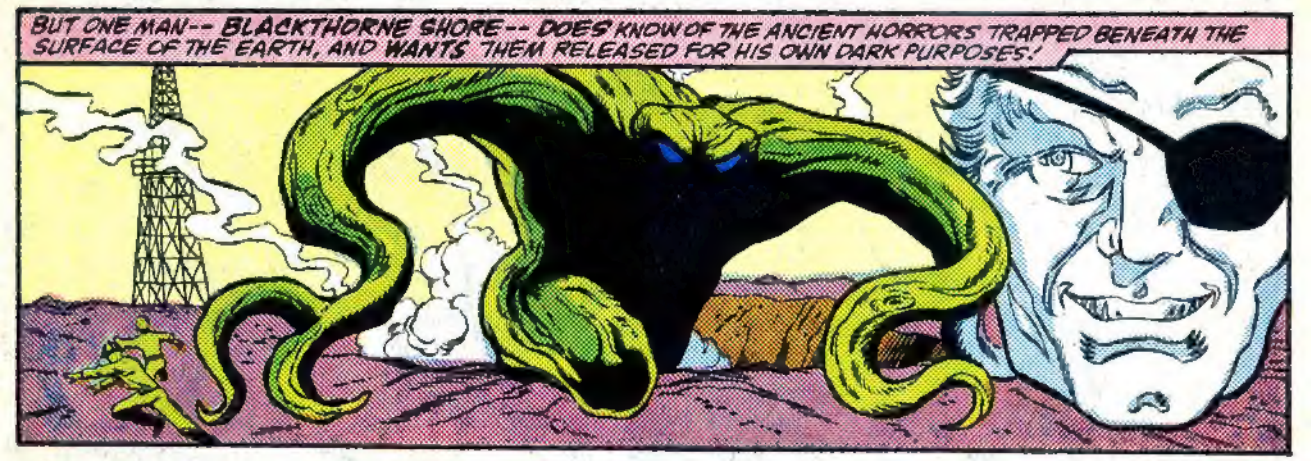

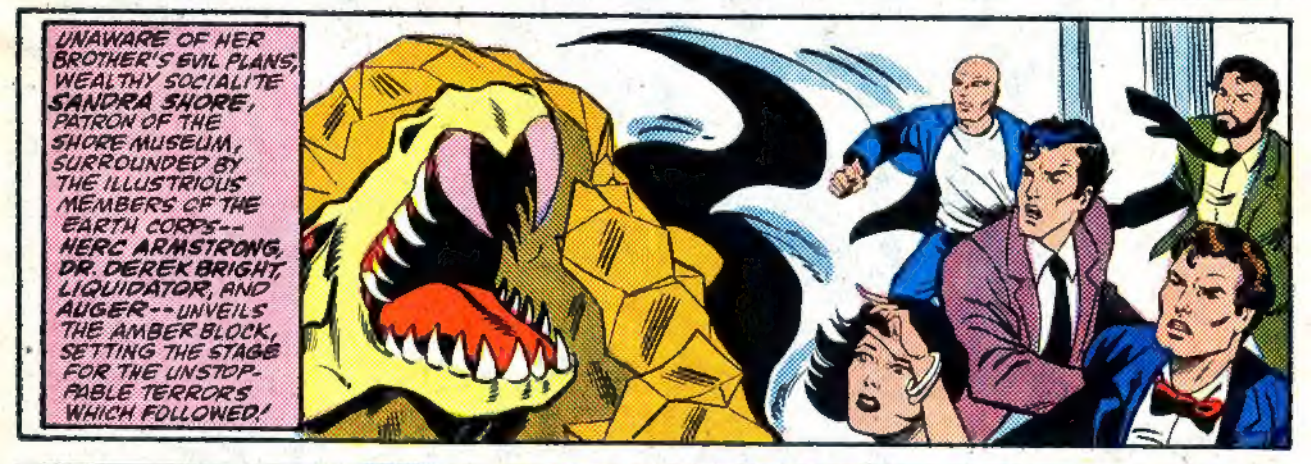

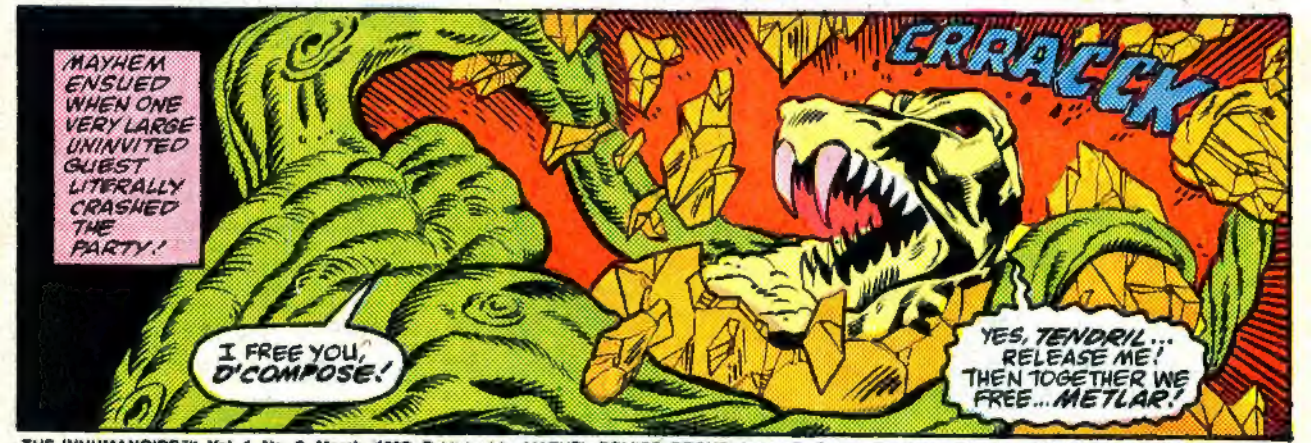

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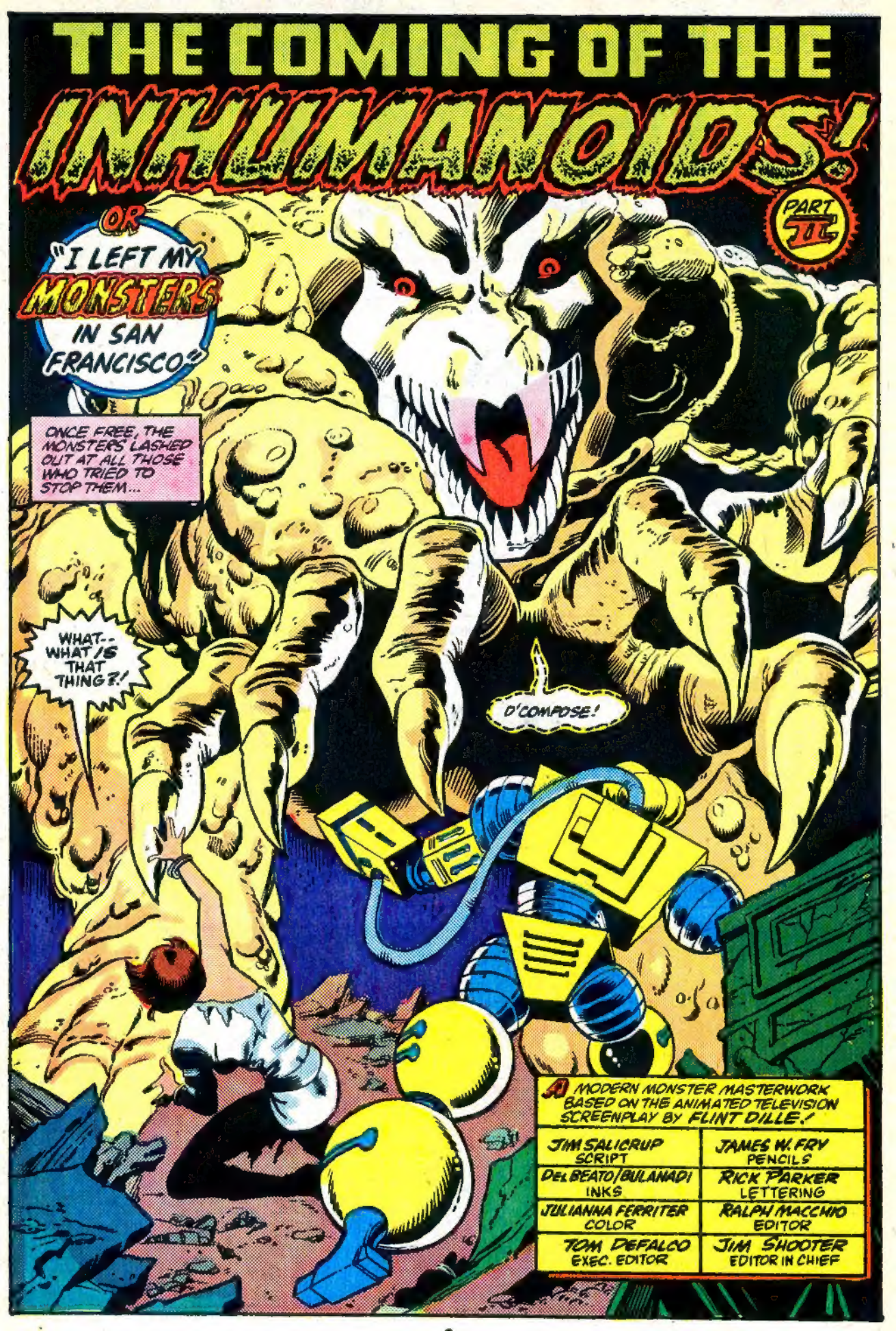
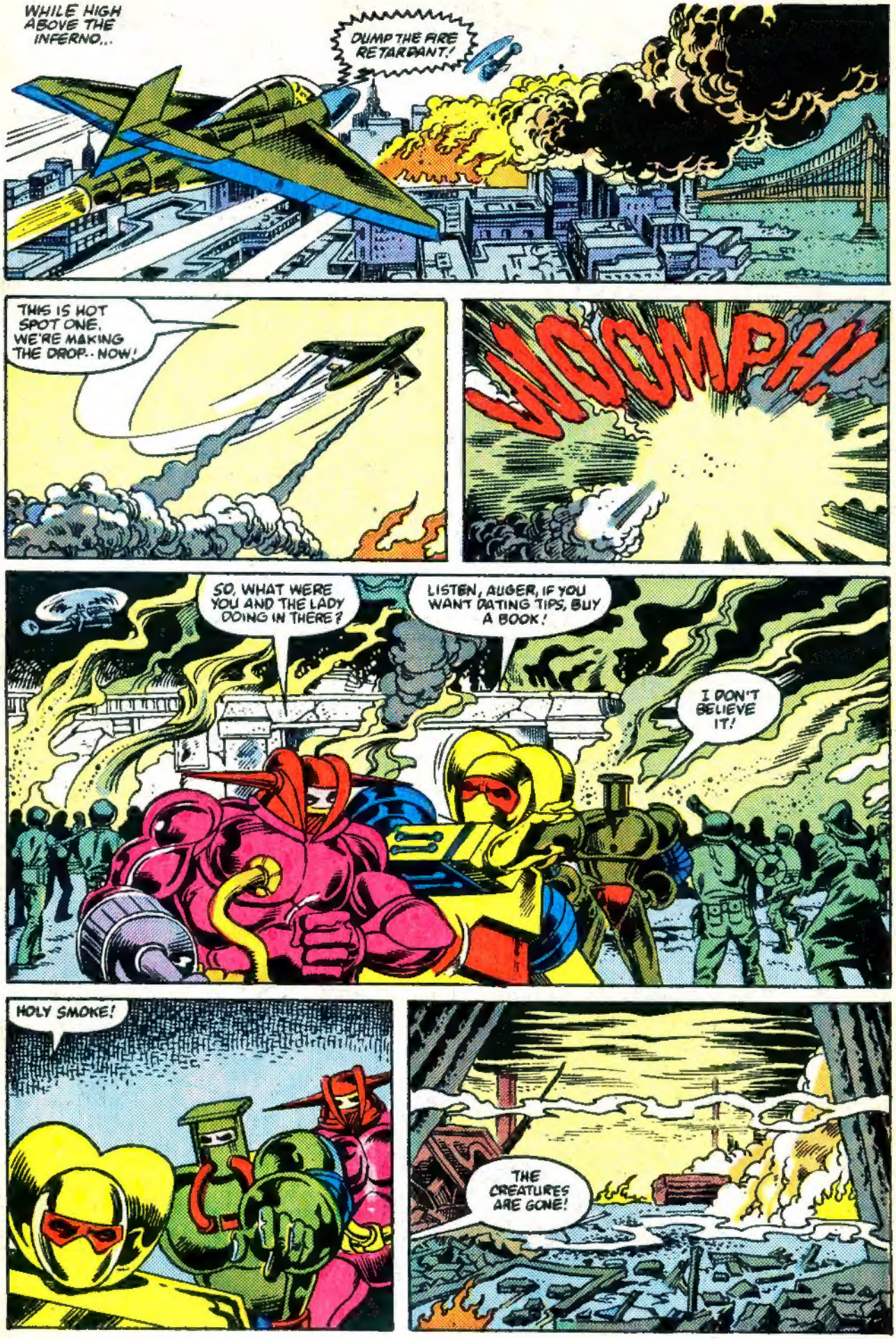
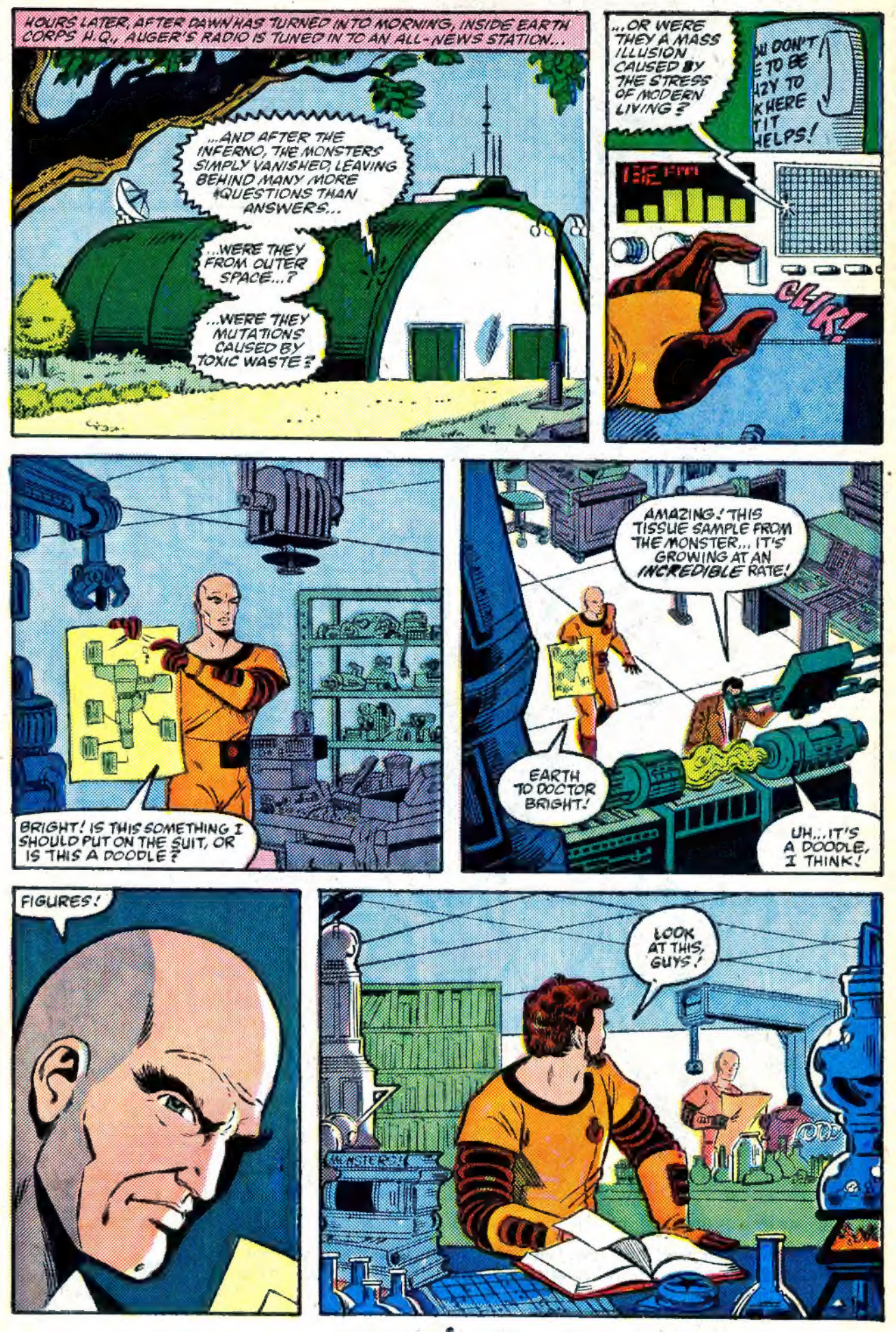

THE COMING OF THE
INHUMANOIDS!
PART II
OR
"I LEFT MY MONSTERS IN SAN FRANCISCO"
ONCE FREE, THE MONSTERS LASHED OUT AT ALL THOSE WHO TRIED TO STOP THEM...
WHAT-- WHAT IS THAT THING?!
D'COMPOSE!
A MODERN MONSTER MASTERWORK BASED ON THE ANIMATED TELEVISION SCREENPLAY BY FLINT DILLE!
JIM SALICRUP SCRIPT
JAMES W. FRY PENCILS
DEL BEATO/BULANADI INKS
RICK PARKER LETTERING
JULIANNA FERRITER COLOR
RALPH MACCHIO EDITOR
TOM DEFALCO EXEC. EDITOR
JIM SHOOTER EDITOR IN CHIEF

WUMP!
AAIIEEE!
HERC'S GRAPPLING HOOK GOT HIM!
WITH THE PRESS OF A BUTTON THE GRAPPLING HOOK REELS ITSELF IN!
MOVE IT, LIQUIDATOR!
OOOF!
I'M GETTIN' TIRED OF SAVING YOU!
MAYBE I COULD MAKE IT UP BY TAKING YOU OUT TO DINNER?
SUDDENLY...
BRRATTATATATA
EXIT-- STAGE LEFT!
AAIIEEEEE!!
KRARGHH!

MEANWHILE...
SHORE
COME QUICKLY, MISS SHORE!
SEE YOU LATER, LIQUIDATOR!
YOUR PLACE OR MINE?!
THOSE MONSTERS CAN'T PUSH US AROUND!
FFOOM!
THE MISSILE MISSES THE MONSTERS...
AAIIEEE!
FLAMMABLE
RRARGH!
...BUT STRIKES A GAS MAIN!
DAK-KOOOM!
IF THEY'RE IN THERE--
SHORE MUSEUM
"--THEY'RE NOT COMING OUT!"

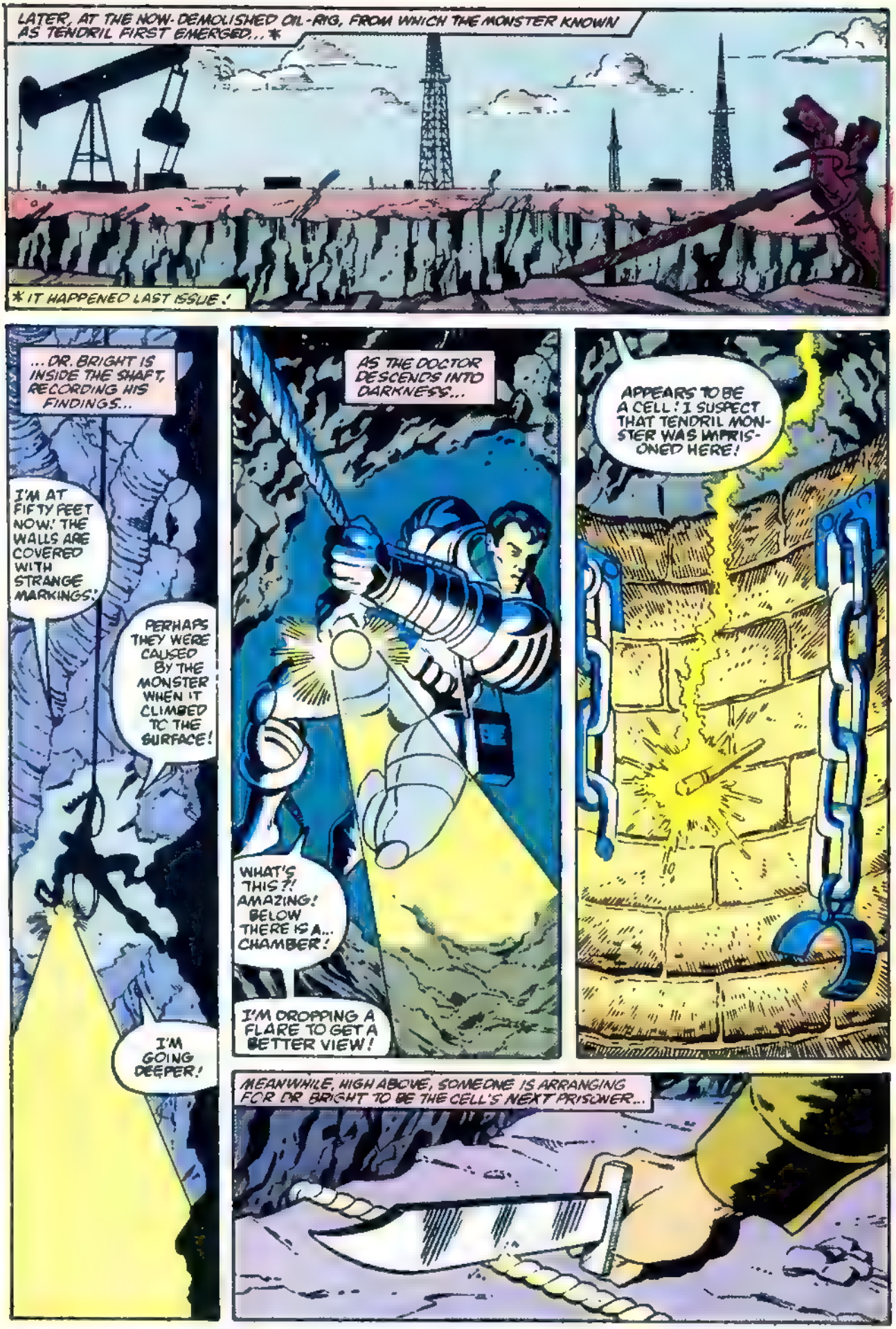

WHILE HIGH ABOVE THE INFERNO...
DUMP THE FIRE RETARDANT!
THIS IS HOT SPOT ONE. WE'RE MAKING THE DROP.. NOW!
WOOMPH!
SO, WHAT WERE YOU AND THE LADY DOING IN THERE?
LISTEN, AUGER, IF YOU WANT DATING TIPS, BUY A BOOK!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
HOLY SMOKE!
THE CREATURES ARE GONE!

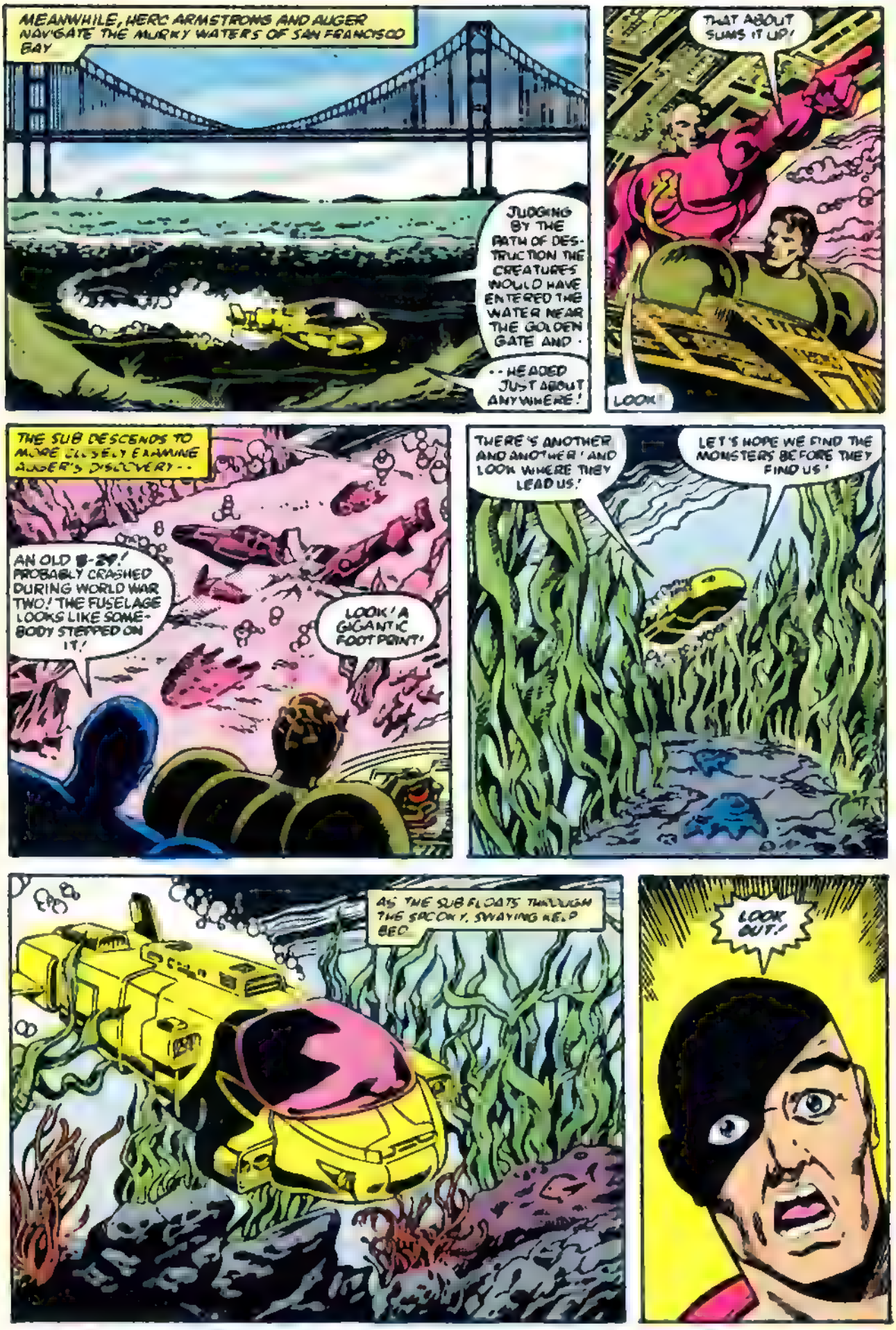

HOURS LATER, AFTER DAWN HAS TURNED INTO MORNING, INSIDE EARTH CORPS H.Q., AUGER'S RADIO IS TUNED IN TO AN ALL-NEWS STATION...
...AND AFTER THE INFERNO, THE MONSTERS SIMPLY VANISHED, LEAVING BEHIND MANY MORE QUESTIONS THAN ANSWERS...
...WERE THEY FROM OUTER SPACE...?
...WERE THEY MUTATIONS CAUSED BY TOXIC WASTE?
...OR WERE THEY A MASS ILLUSION CAUSED BY THE STRESS OF MODERN LIVING?
...U DON'T E TO BE AZY TO K HERE T IT HELPS!
CLIK!
BRIGHT! IS THIS SOMETHING I SHOULD PUT ON THE SUIT, OR IS THIS A DOODLE?
AMAZING! THIS TISSUE SAMPLE FROM THE MONSTER... IT'S GROWING AT AN INCREDIBLE RATE!
EARTH TO DOCTOR BRIGHT!
UH... IT'S A DOODLE, I THINK!
FIGURES!
LOOK AT THIS, GUYS!

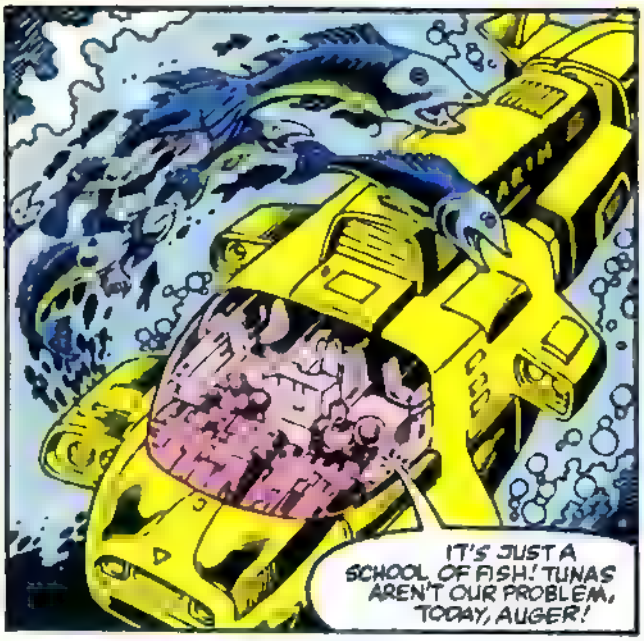
THIS IS A MONSTER THAT ATTACKED CRUSADERS IN THE TWELFTH CENTURY! LOOK FAMILIAR?
UH-HUH.
UH-HUH.
JUST THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED!
THESE THINGS MOST LIKELY CAME FROM THE CENTER OF THE EARTH, GENERAL...
BUT WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE THAT THEY'RE EXTRA-TERRESTRIALS...
BIG MONSTERS!
LOOK, GENERAL, WHAT WE NEED IS MORE MAN-POWER AND EQUIPMENT, NOT--
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, TELL IT TO THE GLOBAL ENQUIRER?!
CLIK!
WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE ON OUR OWN, GUYS!
GOOD! I HATE RED TAPE!

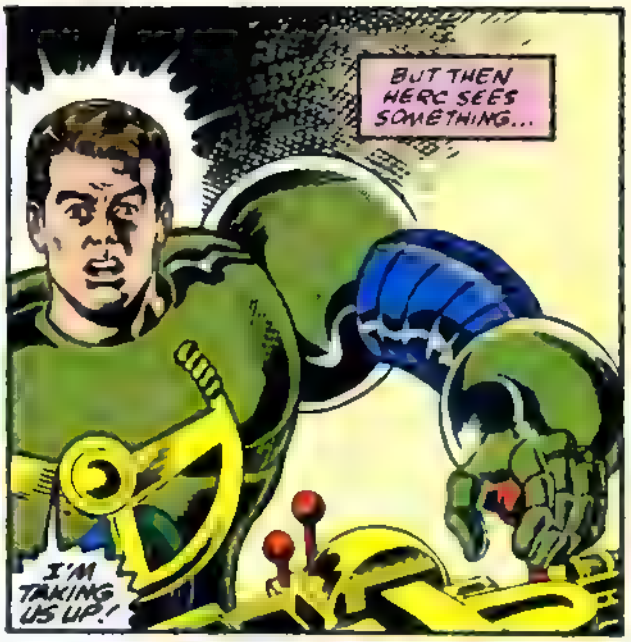
SO, WHERE SHOULD WE START LOOKING FOR THESE CREATURES?
THE WAY I FIGURE IT, THEY MUST HAVE ESCAPED INTO THE BAY! LET'S TAKE THE SUB AND START OUR SEARCH RIGHT HERE!
AUGER, YOU'RE MISSING THE POINT! THE ANSWER TO THIS NIGHTMARE'S IN THE FOREST! REMEMBER THE VIBES?
VIBES! HA!
AN OIL WORKER REPORTED SEEING THE TENDRIL MONSTER COME OUT OF A DRILLING SHAFT!
THAT SHAFT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY LEAD US TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS MYSTERY!
I'M GLAD WE'RE IN AGREEMENT--AS USUAL! AUGER, I'LL ACCOMPANY YOU! BRIGHT--! CHECK OUT THE SHAFT! LIQUIDATOR, YOU CHECK OUT THE, UH, VIBES!
LATER, DEEP WITHIN THE BIG SUR NATIONAL FOREST, IN PURSUIT OF VIBES...
BAM!
NOTHING! NOTHING AT ALL!
MAY AS WELL ENJOY THE SCENERY!
BEEP BEEP BEEP BE
EUREKA!
BEEP BEEP BEEP
WHAT THE--?!
BAM!

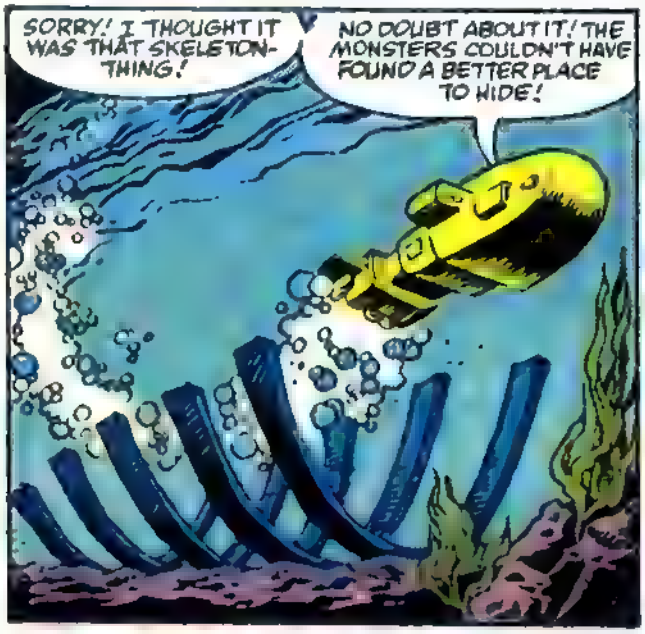
COME ON... COMMUNICATE WITH ME! THERE'S NO REASON WE CAN'T BE FRIENDS!
I MEAN YOU NO HARM!
IT CAN'T BE! I'M BEING SURROUNDED!
YIKES!
UH...
UH...
...OH!
YOU SHALL NEVER VIOLATE THIS FOREST AGAIN, HUMAN!

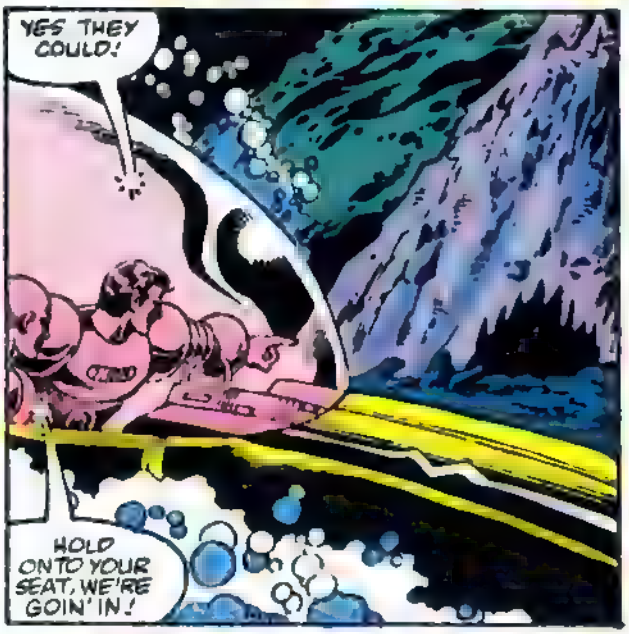

LATER, AT THE NOW-DEMOLISHED OIL-RIG, FROM WHICH THE MONSTER KNOWN AS TENDRIL FIRST EMERGED...*
*IT HAPPENED LAST ISSUE!
...DR. BRIGHT IS INSIDE THE SHAFT, RECORDING HIS FINDINGS...
I'M AT FIFTY FEET NOW! THE WALLS ARE COVERED WITH STRANGE MARKINGS!
PERHAPS THEY WERE CAUSED BY THE MONSTER WHEN IT CLIMBED TO THE SURFACE!
I'M GOING DEEPER!
AS THE DOCTOR DESCENDS INTO DARKNESS...
WHAT'S THIS?! AMAZING! BELOW THERE IS A... CHAMBER!
I'M DROPPING A FLARE TO GET A BETTER VIEW!
APPEARS TO BE A CELL! I SUSPECT THAT TENDRIL MONSTER WAS IMPRISONED HERE!
MEANWHILE, HIGH ABOVE, SOMEONE IS ARRANGING FOR DR BRIGHT TO BE THE CELL'S NEXT PRISONER...

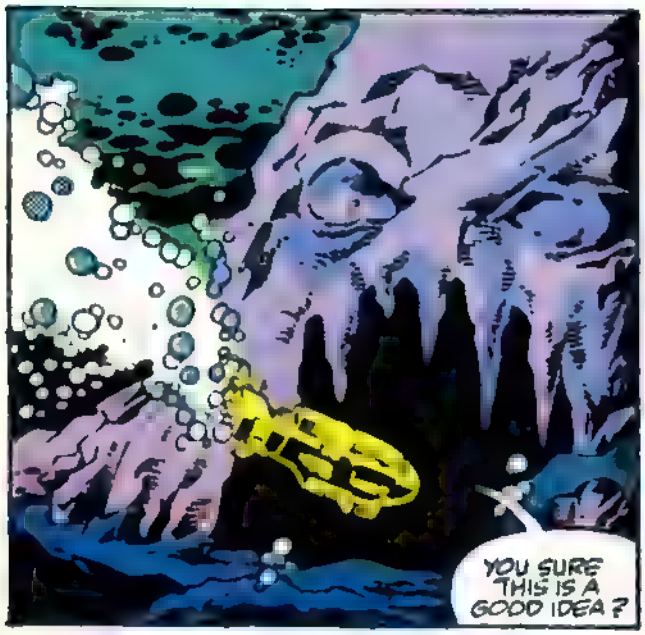

MEANWHILE, HERC ARMSTRONG AND AUGER NAVIGATE THE MURKY WATERS OF SAN FRANCISCO BAY
JUDGING BY THE PATH OF DESTRUCTION THE CREATURES WOULD HAVE ENTERED THE WATER NEAR THE GOLDEN GATE AND--
--HEADED JUST ABOUT ANYWHERE!
THAT ABOUT SUMS IT UP!
LOOK!
THE SUB DESCENDS TO MORE CLOSELY EXAMINE AUGER'S DISCOVERY--
AN OLD B-29! PROBABLY CRASHED DURING WORLD WAR TWO! THE FUSELAGE LOOKS LIKE SOMEBODY STEPPED ON IT!
LOOK! A GIGANTIC FOOTPRINT!
THERE'S ANOTHER AND ANOTHER! AND LOOK WHERE THEY LEAD US!
LET'S HOPE WE FIND THE MONSTERS BEFORE THEY FIND US!
AS THE SUB FLOATS THROUGH THE SPOOKY, SWAYING WEED BED
LOOK OUT!


IT'S JUST A SCHOOL OF FISH! TUNAS AREN'T OUR PROBLEM, TODAY, AUGER!


BUT THEN HERC SEES SOMETHING...
I'M TAKING US UP!

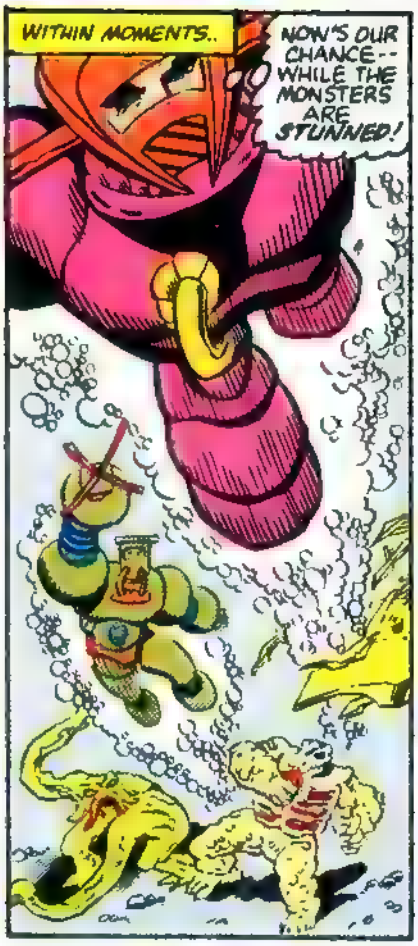

SORRY! I THOUGHT IT WAS THAT SKELETON-THING!
NO DOUBT ABOUT IT! THE MONSTERS COULDN'T HAVE FOUND A BETTER PLACE TO HIDE!


YES THEY COULD!
HOLD ONTO YOUR SEAT, WE'RE GOIN' IN!

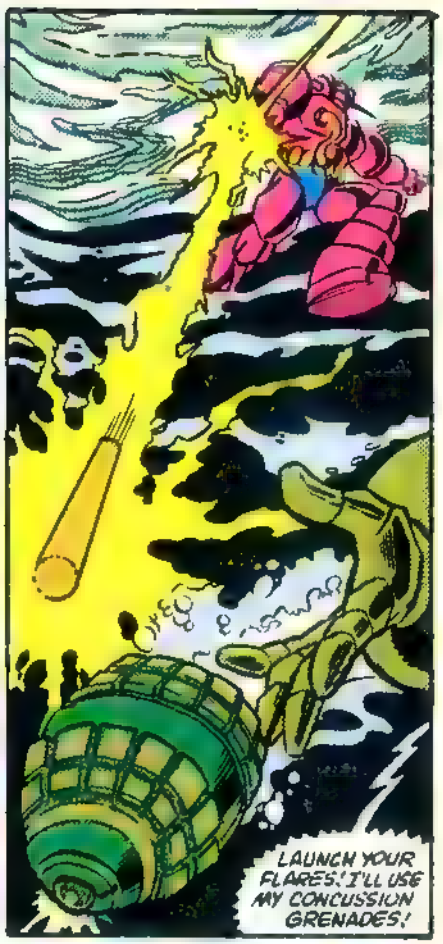

YOU SURE THIS IS A GOOD IDEA?

I'M GETTING A DEPTH READING OF TWO MILES! WE MUST BE IN A LAVA TUBE!

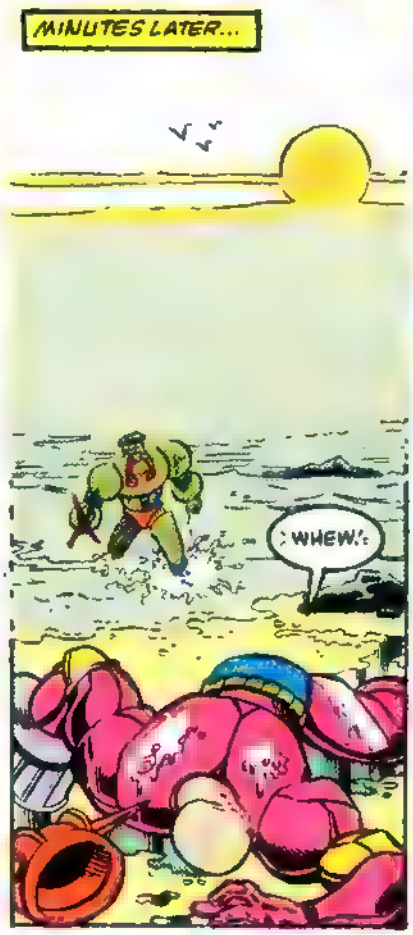
WE'VE FOUND A DOORWAY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH!
SUDDENLY
WHAT WAS THAT?!
IT WASN'T CHARLEY THE TUNA!
FULL THROTTLE!
IT'S NO USE! IT'S GOT US!
AND IT'S CRUSHING US LIKE A TIN CAN!
POP!
PUT ON YOUR HELMET! I'M BLOWING THE PRESSURE BOLTS!
POP!
BANG!
KA-BLOOM!
BUH-WAAINEEE!
WRRARGHH!


WITHIN MOMENTS..
NOW'S OUR CHANCE-- WHILE THE MONSTERS ARE STUNNED!

UHOH! THAT DIDN'T LAST LONG!

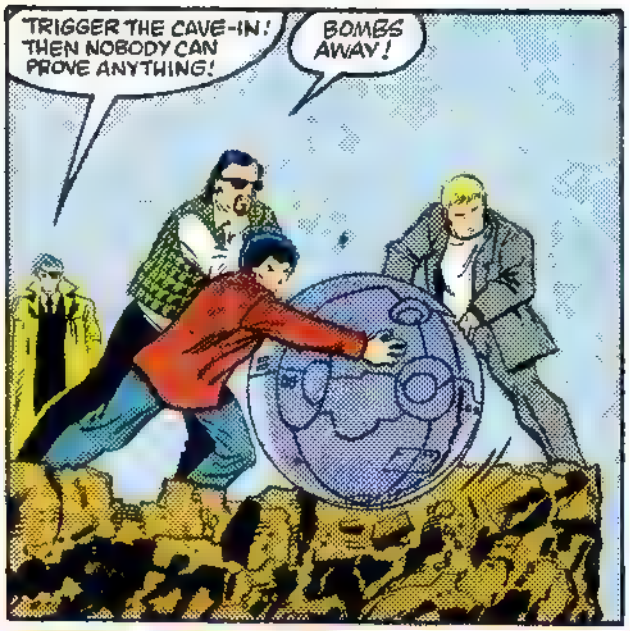

LAUNCH YOUR FLARES! I'LL USE MY CONCUSSION GRENADES!

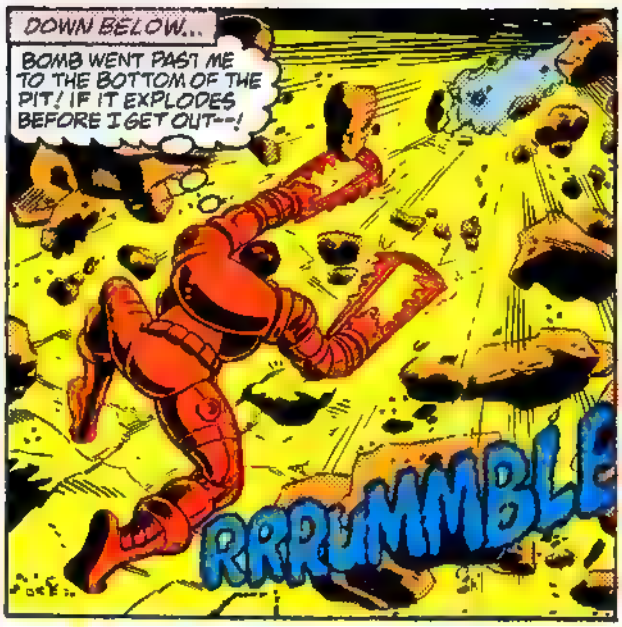
THAT OUGHT TO GIVE THEM A HEADACHE!
BREAKS MY HEART!
BLAAIIIEE!
AARG-BLUHH!


MINUTES LATER...
WHEW!

SUDDENLY, UNEXPECTEDLY..
THUMP

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
I'M RIGHT BEHIND YOU!
AS THE TWO MEN RUSH TO SAFETY, ELSEWHERE, BLACKTHORNE SHORE FINALLY CUTS THROUGH THE STURDY ROPE THAT ANCHORED DR. BRIGHT TO THE SURFACE.
HAPPY LANDING MEDDLING FOOL! HA HA HA!
SNAP!
WHAT THE ?!
AOOOAH!!
THUD!
KA-CLUNK!
OKAY! NOW I'M READY FOR YOU!
HE'S SPLATTERED FOR SURE, MISTER SHORE!
WHAT A TERRIBLE TRAGEDY!


TRIGGER THE CAVE-IN! THEN NOBODY CAN PROVE ANYTHING!
BOMBS AWAY!

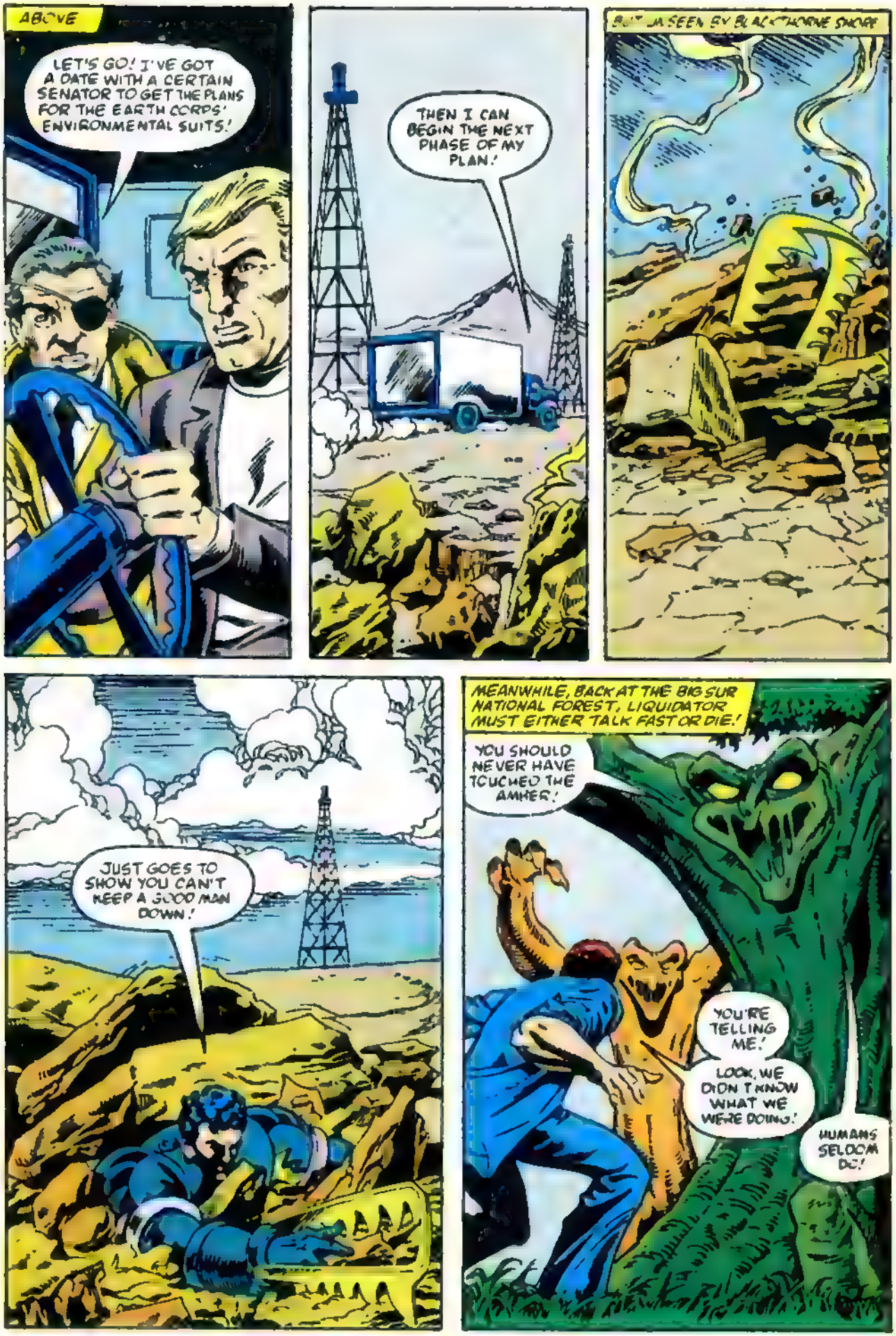

DOWN BELOW...
BOMB WENT PAST ME TO THE BOTTOM OF THE PIT! IF IT EXPLODES BEFORE I GET OUT--!
RRRUMMBLE

KA-BOOM

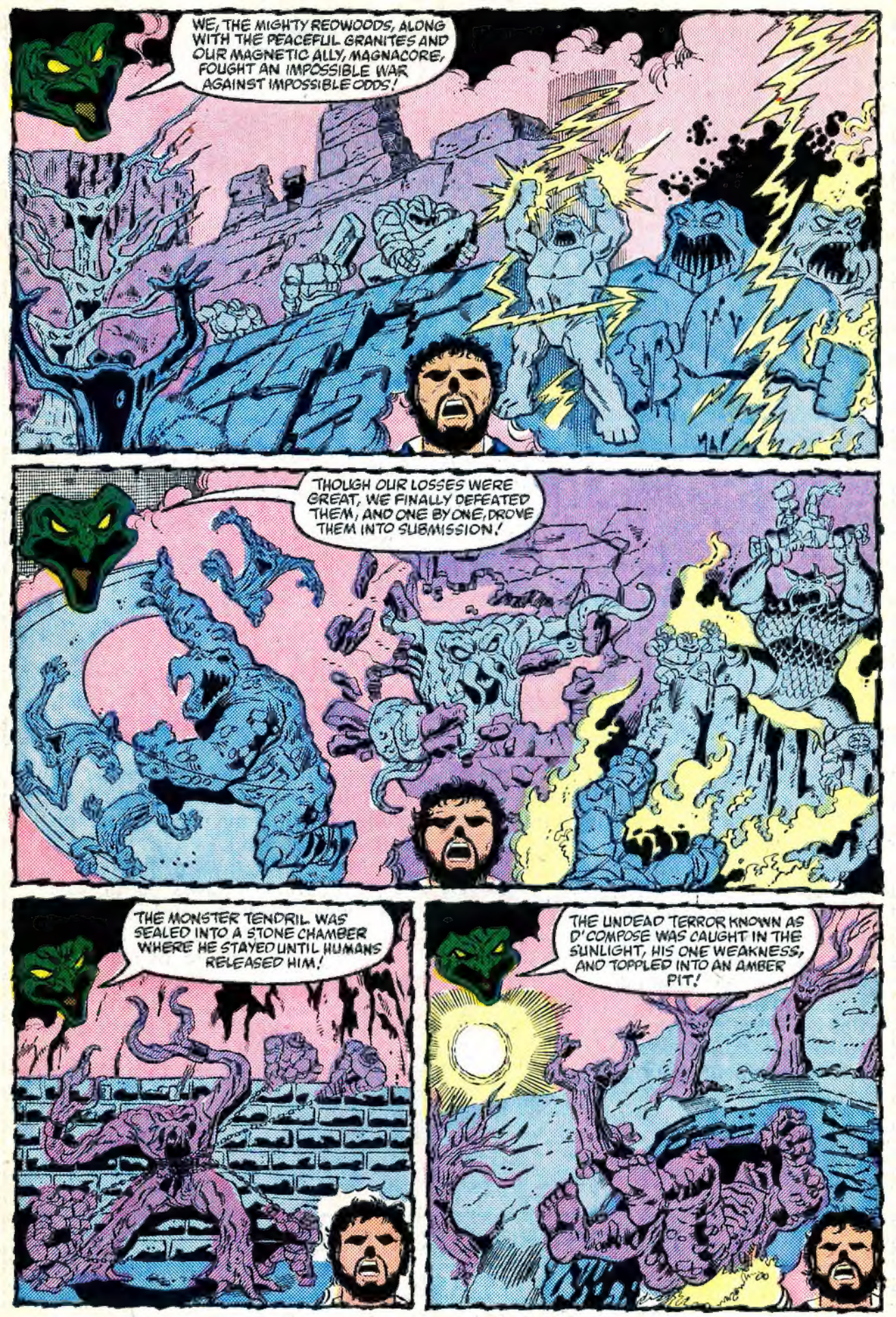
RRRUMMBLE
WE'VE STARTED AN EARTHQUAKE! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

AS THE VERY WALLS OF THE MINE SHAFT CLOSE IN ON HIM, DR. BRIGHT PAINFULLY WATCHES THE OPENING ABOVE...
RRUMBLE
I'M TRAPPED!

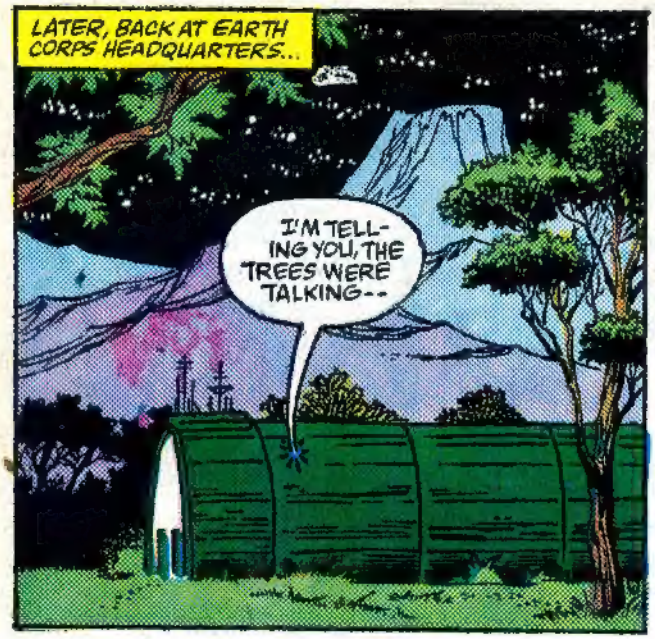
...SLAM SHUT!


ABOVE
LET'S GO! I'VE GOT A DATE WITH A CERTAIN SENATOR TO GET THE PLANS FOR THE EARTH CORPS' ENVIRONMENTAL SUITS!
THEN I CAN BEGIN THE NEXT PHASE OF MY PLAN!
BUT IS SEEN BY BLACKTHORNE SNOOP
JUST GOES TO SHOW YOU CAN'T KEEP A GOOD MAN DOWN!
MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE BIG SUR NATIONAL FOREST, LIQUIDATOR MUST EITHER TALK FAST OR DIE!
YOU SHOULD NEVER HAVE TOUCHED THE AMBER!
YOU'RE TELLING ME!
LOOK, WE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WE WERE DOING!
HUMANS SELDOM DO!

WE'LL GIVE IT BACK! REALLY! WE DON'T WANT IT!
ONE SHOULD NOT STEAL WHAT ONE DOES NOT WANT!
OH, YOU'RE RIGHT! I COULDN'T AGREE WITH YOU MORE! FROM NOW ON, I WON'T TAKE SO MUCH AS A PINE CONE FROM THIS FOREST!
YOU ARE A CURIOUS BEING!
THANKS! I THINK...
SUDDENLY, MYSTERIOUSLY, THE TREES BEGIN TO CHANT- A STRANGE, MYSTICAL AND MUSICAL CHANT THAT SOUNDS LIKE THE WIND WHISTLING THROUGH THE TREES.
I SHOULD'VE GONE FOR A JOY RIDE IN THE SUB WITH HERC AND AUGER!
AFTER SEVERAL LONG MINUTES THE CHANTING ABRUPTLY STOPS...
YOUR AURA IS GOOD! YOUR THOUGHTS ARE PURE! LET US SHOW YOU THE HORROR YOU HAVE RETURNED TO THE WORLD!
LONG AGO, WHILE HUMANS STILL LIVED IN THE WOODS, A TERRIBLE WAR BETWEEN THE MUTORES AND THE EVIL INHUMANOIDS RAGED FAR BELOW!
THE INHUMANOIDS! METLAR, TYRANT FROM THE CORE!
"D'COMPOSE, THE UNDEAD HORROR!
"AND TENDRIL, RAVAGER OF THE MANTLE! THEY SET OUT TO CRUSH THE MUTORES!"


WE, THE MIGHTY REDWOODS, ALONG WITH THE PEACEFUL GRANITES AND OUR MAGNETIC ALLY, MAGNACORE, FOUGHT AN IMPOSSIBLE WAR AGAINST IMPOSSIBLE ODDS!
THOUGH OUR LOSSES WERE GREAT, WE FINALLY DEFEATED THEM, AND ONE BY ONE, DROVE THEM INTO SUBMISSION!
THE MONSTER TENDRIL WAS SEALED INTO A STONE CHAMBER WHERE HE STAYED UNTIL HUMANS RELEASED HIM!
THE UNDEAD TERROR KNOWN AS D'COMPOSE WAS CAUGHT IN THE SUNLIGHT, HIS ONE WEAKNESS, AND TOPPLED INTO AN AMBER PIT!

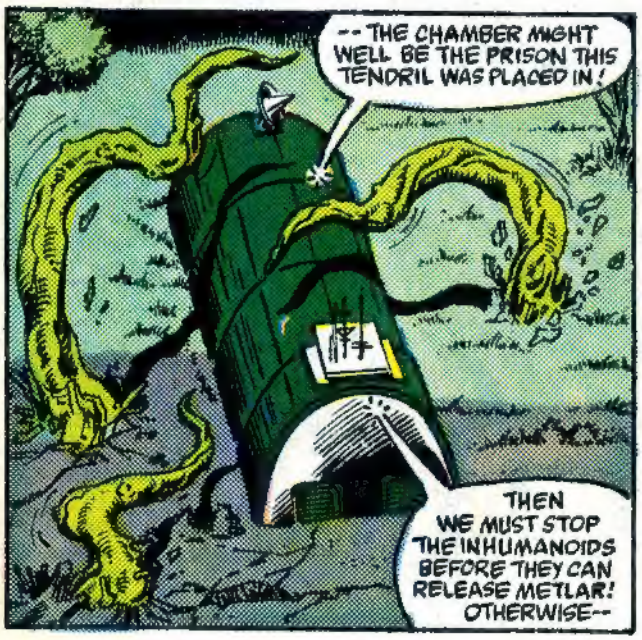
AND METLAR, MOST HORRIBLE OF ALL THE INHUMANOIDS, WAS TRAPPED IN MAGNACORE'S MAGNETIC FIELD! HE IS STILL CONFINED, BUT I FEAR THE OTHER INHUMANOIDS WILL ATTEMPT TO RELEASE HIM! IF THAT SHOULD HAPPEN THE WORLD WILL KNOW NO PEACE!
WHOA!
DON'T WORRY! I PROMISE YOU! WE WILL STOP THEM!
YOU TALKIN' TO ME?
YOU OUGHT TO GET OUT OF THE SUN, PAL!
YEAH! THAT A GOOD IDEA! THANKS!
THERE'S ONE BORN EVERY MINUTE!


LATER, BACK AT EARTH CORPS HEADQUARTERS...
I'M TELL-ING YOU, THE TREES WERE TALKING--

I HOPE THEY SPOKE SOFTLY, THEY SURE CARRY BIG STICKS!
STOW IT, AUGER!

I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT LIQUIDATOR'S STORY JIBES VERY WELL WITH MY OWN!

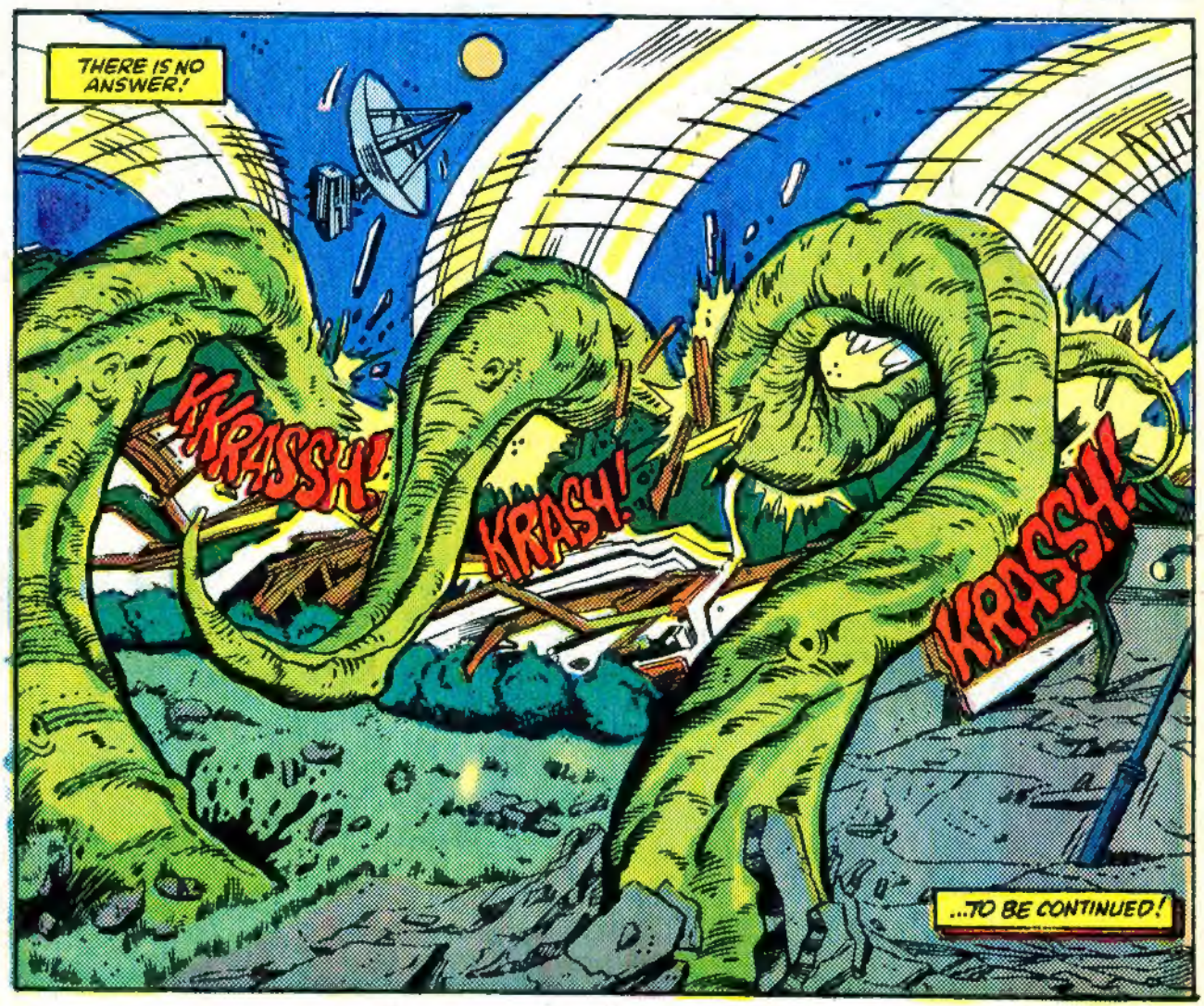
WHEN I INVESTIGATED THE DRILLING SHAFT, I DISCOVERED A DEEP CHAMBER--


-- THE CHAMBER MIGHT WELL BE THE PRISON THIS TENDRIL WAS PLACED IN!
THEN WE MUST STOP THE INHUMANOIDS BEFORE THEY CAN RELEASE METLAR! OTHERWISE--

KER-RRASH!

KRASSH!
HIT THE DECK!

THE POWER GOES OUT! ALL IS DARK WITHIN EARTH CORPS HQ...
BRIGHT! AUGER! LIQUIDATOR! YOU STILL ALIVE?!


THERE IS NO ANSWER!
KRASSH!
KRASH!
KRASSH!
...TO BE CONTINUED!